



Meeting Minutes	May 23, 2016	Town Hall Annex Conference Room
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In attendance: Commissioners Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Barbara Costa, Adria Arch, Jonathan Hyde, Aimee Taberner, and Leland Stein, and Town Planning Director Jennifer Raitt

Absent: Carla Dorato

The meeting was called to order at 8:35am.

- **Cultural Planning Funds:** The meeting was called to make spending decisions about the unexpended FY16 funds allocated to cultural planning. (The funds were originally intended to be used as a partial match for the MAPC grant but work will not begin on this program until FY17.)

L. Stein reported the unexpended balance was approximately \$2,134 after payment of the Americans for the Arts institutional membership.

There was brief discussion about using some of the funds to support the Arlington Alive! Block party, but the consensus was that this did not meet the intent of the funding.

Discussion then focused on using the funds to generate design proposals to “bridge the gap” between Arlington Center and Capitol Square, the two anchors of the proposed Arlington Cultural District. The Massachusetts Cultural Council, which designates cultural districts, has identified this gap issue as a significant factor in determining the final footprint of the cultural district. All the more so, now that the ACA will be moving from the Gibbs School.

The commission, by unanimous vote, agreed to use the unexpended funds as follows:

Work with Cecily Miller, APA’s consultant, to identify a small group of local artists with place-making expertise. The group of artists will meet with ACAC, Jenny Raitt, and members of the Cultural District Managing Partnership for a briefing about the proposed cultural district and the gap. The meeting will include a walk of the proposed gap area. Each artist will then develop a design scenario and presentation materials. The unexpended FY16 funds will be used to provide the artists with modest honoraria. The design process will culminate in a public forum, moderated by Cecily Miller, in which each artist will present his/her design scenario for open discussion. The design consensus from this forum will be used

to develop a “gap” design in FY17 if the MCC approves the proposed district footprint.

A. Taberner raised the issue of who owns the intellectual property rights developed by the artists. Who implements the consensus design? A. Arch will discuss with Cecily Miller.

B. Costa will take this plan to Adam Chapdelaine for his review, specifically how this fits into the need to expend the funds in FY16.

The Commission agreed to meet with Cecily Miller as soon as possible to discuss details of the plan. A. Arch will coordinate with Cecily and send out a Doodle to determine meeting date and time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35am.